

**FILE**

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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**PUCO**

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio :  
Gas Company dba Dominion East Ohio for : Case No. 07-829-GA-AIR  
Authority to Increase Rates for its Gas :  
Distribution Service. :

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio :  
Gas Company dba Dominion East Ohio for : Case No. 07-830-GA-ALT  
Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan for its Gas :  
Distribution Service. :

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio :  
Gas Company dba Dominion East Ohio for : Case No. 07-831-GA-AAM  
Approval to Change Accounting Methods. :

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio :  
Gas Company dba Dominion East Ohio for : Case No. 08-169-GA-ALT  
Approval of Tariffs to Recover Certain Costs :  
Associated with a Pipeline Infrastructure :  
Replacement Program Through an Automatic :  
Adjustment Clause, and for Certain Accounting :  
Treatment. :

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio :  
Gas Company dba Dominion East Ohio for : Case No. 06-1453-GA-UNC  
Approval of Tariffs to Recover Certain Costs :  
Associated with Automated Meter Reading and :  
for Certain Accounting Treatment. :

**PREFILED TESTIMONY  
OF  
TONJA D. STEWART  
SERVICE MONITORING & ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT  
RELIABILITY & SERVICE ANALYSIS DIVISION  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

**Staff Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_**

**July 31, 2008**

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document delivered in the regular course of business.  
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1 1. Q. Please state your name and business address

2 A. My name is Tonja D. Stewart. My business address is 180 E. Broad St.,  
3 Columbus, Ohio 43215.  
4

5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio as a Utility Specialist  
7 2 in the Investigation and Audit Division, Service Monitoring Enforcement  
8 Department. My working title is Low Income Programs Specialist. As the  
9 agency's low-income programs specialist, my duties include oversight of the  
10 Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP); the Winter Reconnect Order; and the  
11 Commission ordered payment plans by monitoring the electric and gas  
12 companies' for compliance with Commission rules and orders. Additionally, I am  
13 the liaison between the Ohio Department of Development, the local community  
14 action agencies and the regulated utility companies.  
15

16 3. Q. Please outline your educational and professional background?

17 A. I have a M.S.A. in Strategic Leadership from Central Michigan University, 2006.  
18 I received a B.A. degree in Public Relations from The Ohio State University in  
19 1988. In May of 1990, my employment started at the Public Utilities Commission  
20 of Ohio as a Public Inquiries Assistant 1 and in May of 1995, I was promoted to  
21 my current position, Utility Specialist 2. Currently, I serve on the Public Benefits  
22 Advisory Board (PBAB) as a designee for the Chairman. I am an ex-officio  
23 member of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke's) Community Energy Partnership and

1 the PUCO representative on Duke's Customer Service Collaborative. In 2001, I  
2 presented a workshop on Ohio's PIPP program at the National Low Income  
3 Energy Consortium.

4  
5 4. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

6 A. I am responding to the following objection to the Staff Report of Investigation,  
7 Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy (OPAE) objection number XVI , Staff's  
8 failure to recommend that EnergyShare be coordinated with E-HEAP.

9  
10 5. Q. What is the Staff's position regarding OPAE's objection to the Staff's failure to  
11 recommend that the EnergyShare be administered through a network of nonprofit  
12 agencies funded through Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) and  
13 coordinated with E-HEAP?

14 A. Staff disagrees with OPAE. The EnergyShare program is sponsored by Dominion  
15 East Ohio Gas (DEO) and administered by the Salvation Army. The EnergyShare  
16 program provides a one-time payment of last resort for DEO customers who have  
17 exhausted other forms of assistance or do not qualify for E-HEAP. Unlike E-  
18 HEAP, the EnergyShare program does not have an income eligibility limit. In  
19 addition, while E-HEAP requires a disconnection notice under all circumstances,  
20 the EnergyShare program does not require a disconnection notice for customers  
21 who are 60 years or older who demonstrate a personal crisis. During the winter of  
22 2006-2007, total funding for the EnergyShare program was \$574,724. DEO's  
23 contribution was \$300,000. The EnergyShare program served 2,614 households

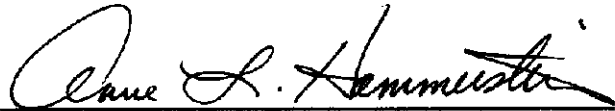
1 during the winter 2006-2007. While Staff understands that customers are required  
2 to interface with the Salvation Army for assistance through the EnergyShare  
3 program, the EnergyShare program does not have the same criteria for assisting  
4 those in need. Staff did not find evidence that the Salvation Army is not providing  
5 adequate assistance to DEO customers and has no information to justify a  
6 recommendation that EnergyShare be administered by the network agencies  
7 funded by the Ohio Department of Development.

8  
9 6. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

10 A. Yes.

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Prefiled Testimony of Tonja D. Stewart, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, was served by regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, hand-delivered, and/or delivered via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2008.



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